paddy lands in that taluk in the Vadakkekara, Pandanad, Chengannur and Puliyur *pakuthies*, out of which 7,000 *paras* were *punja* lands and the remaining double crop *viruppu* lands. Though there were rivers on three sides, there were no facilities to take the required water for irrigation purposes from them and to drain away the excess water from the fields during the rainy season. In consequence both the Kanni and Makaram crops suffered heavily. A *thodu* known as Illemattera *thodu* had been once in existence which started from the Pamba river and after passing through the above mentioned tracts joined the Kuttanperur river. It had become completely silted up owing to the annual floods in the Pamba river. The owners of adjacent lands had slowly encroached on the *thodu*, but in consequence of action recently taken under the Land Conservancy Regulation, the encroachments had been removed. The *thodu* was 40 feet wide and covered a length of nearly 5 miles. Its improvement would cost about Rs. 10,000. The Member suggested that, if that *thodu* could be improved, it would serve about 17,000 *paras* of land and the difficulties which they were experiencing would be removed. He also stated that, if necessary, the ryots of the locality were prepared to pay a cess. In conclusion, the Member requested that the Director of Agriculture might be deputed to make the necessary suggestions for the improvement of the *thodu*.

Dewan's reply.—I shall look into the question of the improvement of the canal you have mentioned.

49. Need for establishing a Veterinary Hospital at Kuttattukulam.

Mr. Avira Mathai (Member, Muvattupuzha Taluk) began by thanking the Government for the considerate manner in which their representations were heard and disposed of. He pointed out that, in point of area and population, Muvattupuzha is one of the important taluks of the State and that the chief occupation of the people was agriculture. It was, therefore, necessary for them to maintain well-bred cattle, especially in view of the extensive cultivation rendered necessary owing to increase of population. The frequency of cattle epidemics had become a source of great hardship to the farmers. Diseases such as *paduvan*, stomach-ache, fever, boil on the neck, foot and mouth disease, etc., were prevalent to a dangerous extent and mortality was considerable. The people of Kuttattukulam found it very difficult to carry diseased cattle to the Pala, Perumpavur or Kottayam Veterinary Hospital, as each of them was 20 or more miles away from that place. The Member, therefore, requested that a veterinary hospital be established at Kuttattukulam.

Dewan's reply.—There are veterinary dispensaries at Pala, Minachil, Kottayam and Perumpavur. Minachil is only 26 miles from Kuttattukulam. The Director of Agriculture is of opinion that there is no necessity for a veterinary hospital or dispensary at Kuttattukulam. He, however, says that he would direct the veterinary officer in charge of the dispensary at Pala to spend one week every month at Kuttattukulam. He now visits that place occasionally. We shall ask him to regularly remain there for 7 days every month.

50. Grievances of the Cardamom Ryots.

Mr. S. P. Sultan Ahamed Badrudin Rowther (Member, Devicolam Taluk) dwelt at length on the hardships suffered by the poor and ignorant cardamom ryots on account of the dual control exercised by the Revenue and Forest Departments over the Cardamom area included within the Cardamom Hills and Periyar Reserves. The Forest Department solely aimed at the revenue due to it and cared little for the welfare of the ryots and they often framed charges against them, of which, in many cases, they were ignorant until written notices reached them. It was the Revenue Department that collected the revenue from the ryots and it would, therefore, be well if the sole administration of the Cardamom area was vested in that Department, as

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